

18 February 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Helms

SUBJECT : Report of Circular Letter of Soviet Central Committee

1. Mr. Michalowski, permanent Polish representative to the General Assembly in the UN, told [REDACTED] Saturday night that the Poles had learned of the existence of a recent circular letter issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union giving an explanation of recent events in Poland, Yugoslavia, and Hungary (apparently ranging back to last September-October). He reported that this letter ascribed all unfavorable characteristics of these developments to "Jewish bourgeois nationalism." The letter contained a bitter denunciation of Tito. It also charged all Party workers with keeping a "close watch" on the Poles and with being alert to anti-Soviet moves on their part.

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2. It would be very nice if you could obtain a copy of said missive, or next best some further information as to its contents, etc.

3. Michalowski also reported that Mao Tse-tung was sick and confining his activities to deep thinking about the major problems confronting Communism. He sent word to the Polish Ambassador in Peiping that he still supported Poland's endeavor to seek its own road to socialism and to preserve its national independence. This report went on to say that Mao was beginning to think about the hereafter and how he would justify his actions to Marx, Engels, and Lenin and that for recent events he wished to be able to claim credit for "solving" the Polish problem.

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AUTH: MR 10-2  
DATE: 3 APR 1980 REVIEWER: 018645

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